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Superintendent

Science Test Specifications

History

	Year	Grade Level	Assessment
1	2007	4, 8 and 10	Spring Administration of Field Test
2	2008 through 2009	4, 8 and 10	Spring Administration of Operational Tests with 4 Forms of Field Test Items (100% release of common items in grades 4, 8 & 10)

Composition of Tests

Grade	Number of Forms	Number of Sessions
4	4 forms	3 sessions
8	4 forms	3 sessions
10	4 forms	3 sessions

Test Design

	Grade 4		Grade 8		Grade 10	
Session	Common	Field Test	Common	Field Test	Common	Field Test
1	18 MC 1 CR	8 MC	18 MC 1 CR	8 MC	18 MC 1 CR	8 MC
2	17 MC	9 MC 1 CR	17 MC	9 MC 1 CR	17 MC	9 MC 1 CR
3	18 MC 1 CR	8 MC	18 MC 1 CR	8 MC	18 MC 1 CR	8 MC
Total	53 MC 2 CR	25 MC 1 CR	53 MC 2 CR	25 MC 1 CR	53 MC 2 CR	25 MC 1 CR

Source of Items

The common and field test items for the assessment are reviewed, edited and approved by Montana educators to align 100% with the Montana Content Standards and the Montana Grade Level Expectations.

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."

Number of Items per Form

Grades	Operational	Field Test	Total
4, 8 and 10	53 MC 2 CR	25 MC 1 CR	78 MC 3 CR

Percent Point distribution by content standard

Montana Standards	Grades 4, 8, and 10
1. Scientific Investigations	23%
2. Physical Science	23%
3. Life Science	23%
4. Earth/Space Science	23%
5. Impact on Society 6. Historical Development	8%

Point distribution by content standard

Montana Standards	Grades 4, 8, and 10
1. Scientific Investigations	14
2. Physical Science	14
3. Life Science	14
4. Earth/Space Science	14
5. Impact on Society 6. Historical Development	5

Item Type by content standard

Montana Standards	Grades 4, 8, and 10
1. Scientific Investigations	10 or 14 MC; 1 or 0 CR
2. Physical Science	10 or 14 MC; 1 or 0 CR
3. Life Science	10 or 14 MC; 1 or 0 CR
4. Earth/Space Science	10 or 14 MC; 1 or 0 CR
5. Impact on Society 6. Historical Development	1 or 5 MC; 1 or 0 CR
Four-point items: Each test contains two 4-point constructed-response items. In any given year, the two items will measure two different standards. From year to year, those standards may change.	

Reporting Categories

1. Scientific Investigations
2. Physical Science
3. Life Science
4. Earth/Space Science
5. Impact on Society*
6. Historical Development*

* Not Reported

2008 Number of Items to Release

Grades	Release
3, 8 and 10	53 MC 1 CR

2008 Test Development Schedule

May 13-14	Content Review	Helena
May 15	Bias Review	Helena
July 23-24	Test Selection Review	Helena